

SOUTH WOODS MIDDLE SCHOOL

Welcome Back To School!

2025-2026 FAMILY GUIDEBOOK



Dear South Woods Families,

Welcome to South Woods Middle School! We are excited to have you and your child join our vibrant community. As partners in education, we are committed to providing a safe, inclusive, and stimulating environment where your child can learn, grow, and flourish as they become leaders and change-makers poised to shape our world.

Our dedicated faculty and staff are here to support your child's academic and personal development, fostering a love for learning and helping them navigate the challenges of middle school. We encourage active communication between home and school, as your involvement plays a crucial role in your child's success. Please use this handbook, as well as our website, to keep up with the happenings at South Woods.

We can't wait to see all of our students on September 2nd. Thank you for entrusting us with your child's education. Here's to a year of growth, discovery, and shared accomplishments!

Warm regards,

Michelle L. Burget, Principal, South Woods Middle School

Meet Your School Leaders:

Principal - Michelle L. Burget

Assistant Principal - Elizabeth Burke

Assistant Principal - Theresa Berke

Assistant Principal - Jessica Tam



The mission of the Syosset Central School District is to prepare students to thrive in both the future we imagine and one which may evolve in ways yet to be envisioned.

Coming and Going



As an all-transportation district, we encourage all students to take the bus daily. Please remember to use caution and drive slowly in our parking lot and the surrounding neighborhood. Our faculty, custodial staff, and security personnel will assist students upon arrival and dismissal. Bus information will be available in the Parent Portal during the last week of summer. Our Transportation Department will notify families when it is posted.

Regular Arrival - All cars arriving in the morning should drop students off either at the side of the building next to the track and field or at the front of the school at the designated drop-off point near the crosswalk. Please note that drop-off on the side closes at 8:00 AM.

Early Drop-Off - Students attending clubs and extra help in the morning may arrive beginning at 7:00 AM and will be directed to the cafeteria until 7:15 AM. All other students should arrive no earlier than 7:45 AM.

Early Dismissal - Students leaving early must have a note signed by a parent/guardian with the stated reason. This note should be given to our attendance office. If a situation arises while your child is in school and you must pick them up, please call or email the attendance office. We will arrange for your child to meet you at the security desk. **All early dismissals must be completed by 2:25 PM.**

Going Home Sick? - If your child needs to be picked up due to illness, they will be signed out by the Health Office. Students cannot be dismissed for sickness other than through the Health Office.

**Only parents/guardians and emergency contacts over the age of 18 may sign a student out.
Photo identification is required.**

More information may be found here:
[Arrival/Dismissal Procedures](#)

2025-26 Bell Schedule

[Red/White Day Schedule - Click Here!](#)



Warning Bell	8:01 AM
Period 1	8:04 AM – 8:44 AM
Period 2	8:48 AM – 9:28 AM
Period 3	9:32 AM – 10:12 AM
Advisory	10:16 AM – 10:26 AM
Period 4	10:30 AM – 11:10 AM
Period 5 - Grade 6 Lunch	11:14 AM – 11:54 AM
Period 6 - Grade 7 Lunch	11:58 AM – 12:38 PM
Period 7 - Grade 8 Lunch	12:42 PM – 1:22 PM
Period 8	1:26 PM – 2:06 PM
Period 9	2:10 PM - 2:50 PM





LUNCH

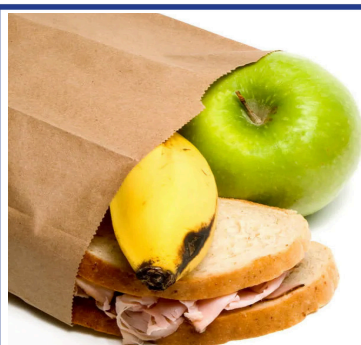
Students may bring lunch or take advantage of school lunch offerings in our school cafeteria. We have a mix of hot lunch and “grab and go” options. Consult the [Food Services](#) page on the district website for more information.

Lunch Schedule

Period 5 - Grade 6 - 11:14 AM

Period 6 - Grade 7 - 11:58 PM

Period 7 - Grade 8 - 12:42 PM



No outside delivery of food or drink is permitted (Uber Eats, Door Dash, etc.). Parents may drop off an individual lunch in an emergency. **Group food deliveries are not permitted.**

Students are encouraged to go outside during recess. Students may also participate in lunch options such as the library or a workshop, if offered, during lunch.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Advisory - Advisory is a place to foster relationships, facilitate communication and build a positive school culture. Advisory is multi-grade and takes place daily after period 3. Extended Advisory days take place 1-2 times per month. A different bell schedule is followed on those days.

Attendance - To report student absence, please call the Attendance Office at (516) 364-5632 or email: swattendance@syosetschools.org. Students who are late to school must obtain a late pass at the security desk. Both chronic absence and lateness will result in administrative intervention and consequences.

Cell Phones - This school year, New York State's "[Distraction-Free Schools](#)" legislation will be in effect at all of our school buildings. Students will not be permitted to use personal internet-enabled devices during the school day and are encouraged to leave these devices at home.

Middle School students who bring a device to school must turn it off and store it in their locker upon arrival. Devices must remain off and in lockers until the school day ends at 2:50 p.m.

If you need to reach your child during the day, please call the South Woods Main Office at 516-364-5621. Office staff will make sure students are contacted in a timely and appropriate way. Please ensure your child memorizes or writes down any important phone numbers. Should a student violate the policy, we will work together to reinforce expectations and promote accountability in a supportive and educational manner. Consequences may include having the phone confiscated and stored securely in the main office; notification to parents/guardians of the violation; and/or parent/guardian being required to pick up the device from school.

Chromebooks - Students are expected to bring their Chromebooks to school daily. All students must follow the District's Code of Character, Conduct and Support as well as the [Acceptable Use Policy](#). Student Chromebooks are monitored by our filtering/monitoring platform GoGuardian. For Chromebook support, contact our Library Media Center, (516) 364-5629.



Clubs - A list of clubs with the meeting date and time will be created and posted throughout the building and on our website. Students will participate in a club fair to learn about different clubs.

Code of Character, Conduct and Support - The [Code](#) and other community expectations will be reviewed with students during the first week of school. Please also take the time as a family to get to know the code.

DASA (Dignity Act) - our DASA Coordinators are Ms. Stephanie Russell and Ms. Jeanne Chung. Please review the district's [DASA Information](#) and reporting procedures.

Lockers - All students will be issued a locker on the first day of school. Students may not share lockers or locker combinations.



No Place For Hate - We are designated a No Place for Hate school by the Anti-Defamation League. We embrace diversity and inclusivity for all of our students and work to live up to this designation on a daily basis.

Photo Objection - If you do **NOT** want your child's photo used in any publications, please make the change by clicking on this [link](#).

School Counseling - Our Mental Health Team is here to help students navigate all elements of middle school life. The best place to start is with our Guidance Office. We also have a School Social Worker and School Psychologist.



STAYING CONNECTED

Communication is the key to our partnership.
Here are the many methods we use to keep in touch:

Google Classroom

Phone

E-mail

[School Webpage](#)

[District Website](#)

SW Morning Show

ParentSquare Updates

[PTSA Meetings & PTSA Weekly Blast](#)

southwoodspts@gmail.com

Proprio Translation Services



Interested in volunteering? Email southwoodspts@gmail.com

IMPORTANT

PHONE NUMBERS

Athletic Office	516-364-5749
Attendance Office	516-364-5632
District Switchboard	516-364-5600
Health Office	516-364-5627
Main Office	516-364-5621
School Counseling Center	516-364-5638
Transportation	516-364-5840

See You Soon!